

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 SCCT-01 SY-05 /075 W

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P 062107Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1773

INFO AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 10757

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PORS, CO

SUBJ: GOC TAKES PRECAUTIONS AGAINST URBAN DISTURBANCES

1. THE GOC, IN A PRECAUTIONARY MOVE, HAS DISPATCHED TROOPS TO THE STREETS OF SEVERAL MAJOR CITIES FOLLOWING SCATTERED DISORDERS IN URBAN CENTERS AROUND THE COUNTRY.
2. IN BOGOTA THE TROOPS WERE OUT IN RESPONSE TO A BUS AND TAXI STRIKE. PUBLIC TRANSIT IS ALWAYS A VOLATILE ISSUE IN THE CAPITAL CITY AND THE STRIKERS HAVE, IN THE PAST, SHOWN A BENT FOR VIOLENCE, USUALLY IN THE FORM OF BURNING VEHICLES THAT OPERATE IN DEFIANCE OF THE STRIKE AND IN SUCH DISRUPTIVE ACTIONS AS STREWING NAILS ALONG THE MAIN THOROUGHFARES OF THE CITY. BY THE AFTERNOON OF THE SIXTH HOWEVER, WITH ARMY UNITS VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE INDICATION OF VIOLENCE.
3. MILITARY PATROLS WERE ALSO DEPLOYED IN CALI ON THE MORNING OF THE SIXTH. THE GOC ACTION COMES IN THE WAKE OF STUDENT PROTEST AGAINST HIGH BUS FARES IN FALMIRA, A SMALL CITY SOME FIFTEEN MILES FROM CALI.
4. IN BUCARAMANGA THE ARMY WAS ENFORCING A CURFEW, SUBSEQUENT

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TO DISORDERS ARISING FROM INCREASED TRANSPORTATION FARES AND

THE DEATH LAST WEEK OF A STUDENT DEMONSTRATOR.

5. MEDELLIN, THE NATION'S SECOND LARGEST CITY, WAS RELATIVELY CALM. ARMY PATROLS, WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN LAST WEEK AS A RESPONSE TO THE WAVE OF KIDNAPPINGS, REMAINED ON DUTY ALTHOUGH IN REDUCED NUMBERS. THE RECENT CAPTURE OF SOME OF THE ALLEGED CRIMINALS HAS IN FACT ENGENDERED SOME DEGREE OF RELIEF FROM THE TENSIONS THAT HAVE RECENTLY AFFECTED THE CITY.

6. THERE ARE PRELIMINARY REPORTS OF GOC PRECAUTIONARY MOVES IN THE ATLANTIC PORT OF BARRANQUILLA ALTHOUGH THE NATURE OF THE DISTURBANCES, IF ANY, IS NOT YET KNOWN.

7. COMMENT: THE BRISK GOC REACTION TO THE ACTUAL AND INCIPIENT PUBLIC DISORDERS IN THE URBAN CENTERS LENDS CREDENCE TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ' STATEMENT OF LAST WEEK THAT HE WOULD GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THE SECURITY PROBLEM. (BOGOTA 10566).  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

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